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SCIENCE

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FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

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CONTENTS

<i>Opportunities for Young Men in Science:—</i>	
<i>Opportunities in Botany:</i> PROFESSOR JOHN G. COULTER. <i>Openings for Chemists:</i> PROFESSOR W. A. NOYES. <i>Outlook for Young Men in Geology:</i> DR. H. FOSTER BAIN. <i>Outlook for Young Men in Physics:</i> PROFESSOR HENRY CREW. <i>Outlook for Young Men in Zoology:</i> DR. H. V. NEAL	873
<i>The Chemical Education of the Engineer:</i> PROFESSOR WILLIAM H. ELLIS	882
<i>Scientific Books:—</i>	
<i>Sherrington's The Integrative Action of the Nervous System:</i> PROFESSOR R. S. WOODWORTH	885
<i>Scientific Journals and Articles</i>	889
<i>Societies and Academies:—</i>	
<i>The Chicago Section of the American Mathematical Society:</i> PROFESSOR H. E. SLAUGHT. <i>Section of Anthropology and Psychology of the New York Academy of Sciences:</i> PROFESSOR R. S. WOODWORTH. <i>The Geological Society of Washington:</i> DR. RALPH ARNOLD	889
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i>	
<i>Geological Climates:</i> DR. J. M. SCHAEFERLE. <i>Amethystine Blue:</i> PROFESSOR HENRY WINSTON HARPER; EDGAR T. WHERRY. <i>The Italian Archives of Biology:</i> PROFESSOR CHARLES S. MINOT	894
<i>Special Articles:—</i>	
<i>An Interpretation of Elementary Species:</i> DR. W. J. SPILLMAN	896
<i>Current Notes on Meteorology and Climatology:—</i>	
<i>Kassner's "Das Wetter"; Lake Chad—its Desiccation; A Railway Wind Gauge; The Moon and Clouds; Mountain Sickness; London Fog and Country Fog; Note:</i> PROFESSOR R. DE C. WARD	898
<i>Letters concerning the Administration of Syracuse University</i>	900
<i>The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research</i>	901
<i>The Darwin Celebration</i>	901
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i>	901
<i>University and Educational News</i>	904

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG MEN IN SCIENCE¹

OPPORTUNITIES IN BOTANY

SOME of us have been assured by those who have had to do with the program that the sharers in this symposium are not to feel themselves fettered by the specific limitations of their assigned topics.

Hence my liberty in asking first why we should be concerned at all in any special effort to increase interest in science work as a profession. General interest in science is another matter. The aim of this symposium, however, appears to be to point out why a choice of their life work from the various branches of science is a desirable choice for young men to make.

It may be reasonably inferred, if only from the remarks made this morning in the discussion upon what shall be the dues of this organization (so happily placed at one dollar), that we have nothing very great in the way of financial compensation to offer. For that very reason, if we are good economists, should we not be the last to encourage more strenuous competition for the apparently limited number of real competences which exist for the sustenance of life workers in science? Yet we are most cheerfully engaged in doing that very thing. Though there may be far from enough to go around in generous portions, let us by all means have more in at the feast. There may be compensation in the extra-prandial proceedings.

An editorial in a recent science peri-

¹From a symposium at the organization meeting of the Illinois State Academy of Science.